

MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023

Take & Give Seed Library

Our new seed library has been very popular with patrons, and we look forward to helping our community plant, both for their own satisfaction, as well as food security. You can “check out” seeds and return harvested seeds. If you seed save, please bring your cleaned seeds back in and we can package them, or feel free to donate purchased packets.

We are thankful to the North Aurora Garden Club for partnering with us on this project.

Tiny Art Show & Reception

Supplies available: March 25

Reception: Saturday, April 29 • 2:00 p.m.



Put your creativity on display by participating in our community (tiny) art show!

Pick up a Tiny Art Show kit from the Library (while supplies last), create your masterpiece, and submit your artwork to the User Services Desk by Sunday, April 23. One entry per person, all ages welcome. Everyone is invited to a reception at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 29.

Tree-Plenish

Order deadline: March 12

Pick-up: Wednesday, April 12 • 4:30-6:30 p.m.

All ages. Plant a tree! Messenger and IMSA are partnering to offer tree saplings for \$5 each. At pick-up, chat with IMSA's Club Terra students about how we can make the world a little greener.

See website for more details. Saplings must be preordered online at tpevents.org/school/3012.

Register on the Library's event calendar for a pick-up reminder text or email.



All ages. Visit the Library to receive a free comic book and bookmark of your choice. While supplies last.



Graphic Novel Workshop

Monday, May 8 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Adults and teens. Jerry and Chet from Do Art Productions, will guide us in making a standard six panel comic, diving into the unique language of comics and the rare potential that other mediums don't have. We will discuss basic literary concepts like conflict resolution and expression, while exploring attributes that art brings to creators, such as confidence, identity, mental and emotional health.

► MARCH ► APRIL ► MAY

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Call or check our online events calendar for more details, up-to-date information, and registration for adult programs. All programs are in the Library, unless otherwise noted. Register in advance. Teens 16 and over are welcome to register. Note: Art Club requires registered adult with any teen. ASL interpreters may be available. Request two weeks in advance.

Photographer: John Mosley Collection
Charles L. Blockson Afro American Collection, Temple University.



Invisible Warriors: A Film

Sunday, March 12 • 2:00-4:00p.m. • Live introduction and screening at the Library

March 5 - March 15 • Stream the film (register for link)

Wednesday, March 15 • 7:00-8:00p.m. • Stream the Q&A, discussion (register for link)

Invisible Warriors shares the individual experiences of a small group of elegant ladies that represent the 600,000 Black women who fled lives as domestics and sharecroppers to work in factories and U.S. government offices during World War II. These patriotic pioneers share their wartime memories, recounting their battles against racism at home, Nazism abroad, and sexism everywhere. Join us, in person, at the Library, on March 5 as we stream the live introduction with the film's producer, and then screen the documentary. You may also stream the film from home. There will also be a live streaming Q&A and conversation with the producer. Please register to receive the streaming links.

Amelia Earhart A First-Person Portrayal by Leslie Goddard

Saturday, March 18 • 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Please join us as we welcome historical reenactor Leslie Goddard! Amelia Earhart's courageous exploits and spirited personality made her an international celebrity in the early twentieth century. In this lively living-history program, meet Amelia and learn about her experiences as the first woman to cross the Atlantic by airplane (1928) and the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic (1932). She'll describe how she learned to fly, what inspired her adventurous spirit, and why she set off in 1937 for an around-the-world flight.



Mysteries at Messenger: Lair

Monday, March 20 • 6:30-8:30p.m.

Solve a mystery from the Deadbolt Mystery Society! Work together to unravel the clues using deduction, logic, and other skills. Come alone or bring friends.

Happy & Healthy With Houseplants

Monday, March 27 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Indoor plants can clean the air in the home and bring color and warmth to the décor. Discover which plants are the healthiest for you and how to select and care for the right plant for your space.

First-Time Home Buyers Workshop

Saturday, April 15 • 2:00-3:30 p.m.

The idea of buying a home can be overwhelming and confusing. Get the facts you need to know before you buy at our First-Time Home Buyers Workshop. We'll have presentations by a Realtor, a mortgage broker, and a home inspector with plenty of time for questions.



Easy Charcuterie Boards (Zoom)

Monday, April 17 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Get "on board" with the charcuterie trend! Learn how to assemble beautiful, budget-friendly charcuterie boards. You will learn to make two boards: traditional and desserts. Ingredient and tool lists are provided for you to participate live or just watch and learn.

The first 20 registrants will receive a small board and cheese knife. This program will be held on Zoom. Register for the link.

Spring Wildflower Walk

Saturday, May 6 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Take a springtime stroll through the Fabyan Forest Preserve. We will be joined by a naturalist from the Kane County Forest Preserve who will help us identify the local flora.



Al Capone & the 1933 World's Fair

Monday, May 15 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

William Hazelgrove provides the exciting and sprawling history behind the 1933 World's Fair, the last of the golden age. He reveals the story of the six millionaire businessmen, dubbed The Secret Six, who beat Al Capone at his own game, ending the gangster era as prohibition was repealed.

DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Discussion title eBooks and eAudiobooks may be available on Hoopla, Libby, or Axis360.

Print copies and audiobooks may be available for checkout at the User Services Desk. Register in advance.

Narrative Nonfiction Book Discussion Group

Mondays • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 13: *The Man who Could Move Clouds*
by Ingrid Rojas Contreras

April 10: *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery
and Their Odyssey Home* by Richard Bell

May 8: *Bottlemania* by Elizabeth Royte

Morning Book Discussion Group

Wednesdays • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

March 8: *Daisy Jones and the Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

April 5: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*
by Thomas C. Foster

May 3: *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley

Evening Book Discussion Group

Thursdays • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 2: *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

April 6: *French Braid* by Anne Tyler

May 4: *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*
by Taylor Jenkins Reid



**WITS
WORKOUT**

New!

Fridays • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

March 10: *Forget Me, Not!* (Forgetfulness contributors)

April 14: *Take a Number!* (Intellectual challenge)

May 12: *Roam in Rome* (Exercise)

Wits Workout is an engaging, interactive, and educational brain health program designed especially for seniors by University of Illinois Extension educators. All materials will be provided. Sign up for your spot before they're all filled!

ART CLUB FOR ADULTS

Beginners welcome! Register in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

Tataki Zome Flower Art

Saturday, March 11 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **OR**

Tuesday, March 21 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Create vibrant fine art pieces from the natural pigments of flowers using Tataki zome, a Japanese technique of hammering plants to create printed patterns on fabric or paper.

Registration starts February 1.

Fairy Teacup Garden

Saturday, May 13 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **OR**

Tuesday, May 16 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Create an adorable teacup garden that fits in your hand, sure to please the most discerning fairy! Finished craft will not be suitable for outdoors.

Registration starts April 1.

Junk Drawer Wind Chimes

Saturday, April 1 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **OR** Tuesday, April 18 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Repurpose random objects found in your drawer! Use them to make a super cute DIY wind chime for your garden. Bring in 6 to 12 junk drawer treasures from home. Suitable items include old keys, buttons, old jewelry, bottle caps, chains, baking utensils, cutlery, toys, or whatever you have will work. All other supplies furnished. Registration starts March 1.

TEENS

Registration for teen and youth programs begins Monday, February 20 online, by phone, or in person.

Teen & Parent Needle Felting Class

Wednesday, March 22 • 7:00-8:00p.m.

Ages 11-18 and parent/caregiver. Come learn the basics of needle felting while creating a cute hedgehog to take home. This class is for parents to attend with their teen.

Teens can attend without an adult. Registration required.

Teen Book Club

Thursdays • 7:00-8:00p.m.

March 30: *Winter* by Marissa Meyer

April 27: *The Magic Fish*
by Trung Le Nguyen

Ages 11-18. Join us for snacks and a lively discussion on that month's book.

Registration required. The first five to register will receive free copies of the books.



Teen LEGO® Night

Thursday, April 6 • 7:00-8:00p.m.

Ages 11-18. You're never too old to build with LEGO®! Come see what you can create with our LEGO® collection.

Registration required.

Teen Take Out

March: Lemon Poppy Seed Mug Cake

April: Glass Bead Magnets

May: pH Strips Test

Stop by the Teen Space each month to pick up a fun craft or activity you can take home and make on your own time. New kits debut on the first of the month, so grab one before they disappear!

While supplies last.

Teen Volunteers

Students ages 12-18 are welcome to volunteer at the Library year-round! Summer volunteer applications and special instructions available online March 1.

Visit messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers for requirements and applications.

Teen Book Box Subscription

For grades 6-12. Register for the spring book subscription! Pick up a box on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box each month to be eligible for next month's books.

Limited space. Registration and Messenger Library card required.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Green Ambassadors: Environmental Rescue Mission

Wednesday, March 29 • 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Kindergarten-grade 5 with caregiver. What do you know about the environment? Work together on this rescue mission with teens from IMSA's Club Terra! *Registration required.*

Get Growing!

Wednesday, April 12 • 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Kindergarten-grade 5. Get ready for spring as we learn about how plants grow and why we need them, decorate a pot, and plant your own seeds! *Registration required.*

Mermaid Princess Storytime

Saturday, April 29 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Ages 3-8 and families. A special friend is visiting Messenger! Together we'll enjoy stories and songs, then stay for an autograph and photo opportunity. *Registration required.*

Read with Rover

Sundays • 2:00-3:00 p.m.

March 19, April 16 & May 21

Aimed at kindergarten-grade 5. Practice reading aloud with a licensed therapy dog from the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club.

Register for a 15-minute time slot.

Register for each month separately.

Creativity Lab

Mondays • 4:30-5:15 p.m.

March 20: The Disappearing Carnival Mystery

April 17: Tiny Art Show Workshop

May 1: Star Wars Week

Grades 3-6. Art, science, and technology, oh my!

Join us for a new hands-on activity every month.

Registration required.

Elementary Book Box Subscription

Kindergarten-grade 5. Register for the spring book subscriptions! Pick up a box on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box/bag each month to be eligible for next month's books.

Limited space. Registration and a Messenger Library card required.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for kids' programs begins Monday, February 20 online, by phone, or in person.



Stop by Youth Services every month for a new take-home activity kit! Kits are categorized by age group with different abilities and skills in mind. *Available while supplies last.*

Family Game Night

Wednesdays • 6:30-7:30 p.m.
March 15, April 19 & May 10

Kindergarten-grade 5 and families. Do you love playing board games? Join us for an hour of fun! A variety of games available. *Light refreshments provided. Registration requested.*



Thursdays: March 9,
April 13 & May 11
6:00-7:00 p.m.

All ages. Build a creation to display at the Library!
Register online for a reminder via email or text.

Early Readers Book Club

Saturdays • 10:00-10:45 a.m.

March 18: *Scaredy's Nutty Adventures, Book 2: Scaredy Gets a Surprise* by Melanie Watt

April 15: *Fox at Night* by Corey R. Tabor

May 20: *Frustrating Book* by Mo Willems

Aimed at kids in kindergarten-grade 2 with caregiver. Just starting to read or exploring early chapter books? Join us to read together, talk about books, and do a craft. *Books will be provided. Coffee and hot chocolate available too! Registration required.*

BABIES & PRESCHOOL

READ • LEARN • GROW Early Learning Challenge

Join Read, Learn, Grow to encourage a love of reading and learning with your children! Earn prizes for reading books and completing monthly early learning activities.

Register online at messengerpl.beanstack.org or pick up a reading log at the Library.

Sensory Playtime

Mondays, March 6, April 10 & May 22 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Babies-Preschool with caregivers. Enjoy sensory play experiences with your little ones! Stations are designed to stimulate your child's mind through sensory, discovery, and gross motor activities. *Register for a reminder email or text.*

Baby Storytime

Tuesdays • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Spring 1: March 14-April 4

Spring 2: April 25-May 16

Ages 0-24 months with caregiver. Enjoy stories, songs, and movement to help foster early literacy skills. *Please register each child attending.*

Theme Bag Book Subscription

March: Imagination April: Earth May: Animals

Ages 0-8. Enjoy a new selection of books for early learners every month! Pick up a bag on the tenth of each month with books based on a certain theme. Turn in your box/bag each month to be eligible for next month's books.

Limited space. Registration, Messenger Library card, required.

Evening STEAM Kit Storytime

Tuesdays, March 28 & April 25 • 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Ages 2-5 with caregivers. Join us for an evening storytime and craft based on the month's STEAM activity kit. *Please register each child attending.*

Stories & Songs

Wednesdays OR Thursdays • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Spring 1: March 15-April 6

Spring 2: April 26-May 18

Ages 2-5 with caregivers. Enjoy stories and songs while building preliteracy skills and learning about the world around us. *Please register each child attending.*

SPECIAL STORYTIMES

Enjoy stories, songs and a special activity with your little ones! *Please register each child attending.*

Process Crafts: Friday, March 24

Toddler (ages 2-3) • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Preschool (ages 3-5) • 10:45-11:15 a.m.

Earth Day: Friday, April 21

Toddler (ages 2-3) • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Preschool (ages 3-5) • 10:45-11:15 a.m.

MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday

1:00-5:00 p.m.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Spring Holiday

Saturday, April 8

Sunday, April 9

Memorial Day Holiday

Sunday, May 28

Monday, May 29

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR



It's Spring! Though actually when we can clearly define the start of it may sometimes be a guessing game in the Midwest. Spring is a season of renewal, to embrace new opportunities. Enhancing our grounds through better mulching, revising the butterfly garden, and enriching plantings will be a key charge for this season. If you are interested in helping through either project or civic service to the Library, please drop a note to shannon@messengerpl.org.

Our main public bathrooms have been enhanced with no-touch door assists along with a water bottle filling station. Both are much easier to operate with limited mobility. Dignity in accessing our facilities is a topic that I, and the Board, consider important to our patrons.

Here at MPL, we've also been working this winter on producing a full range of programming for our community, with educational and cultural programming designed to meet different interests. I hope you find a little bit of everything available. Enjoy the warmer breezes, and please visit us soon.

School Year Reading Challenges!

500 Books Before Middle School

100 Books Before Graduation

Monarch, Bluestem, Caudill
& Lincoln Award Challenges

Kindergarten-grade 12. Track your reading through May and earn free books along the way!

Register online at messengerpl.beanstack.org or pick up a reading log at the Library.



Pre-Registration

May 1-31

All ages. Are you ready for summer? Make sure you don't miss out on any of the fun by preregistering for the Summer Challenge! Register online at messengerpl.beanstack.org or stop by the Library for more information and a preregistration prize.